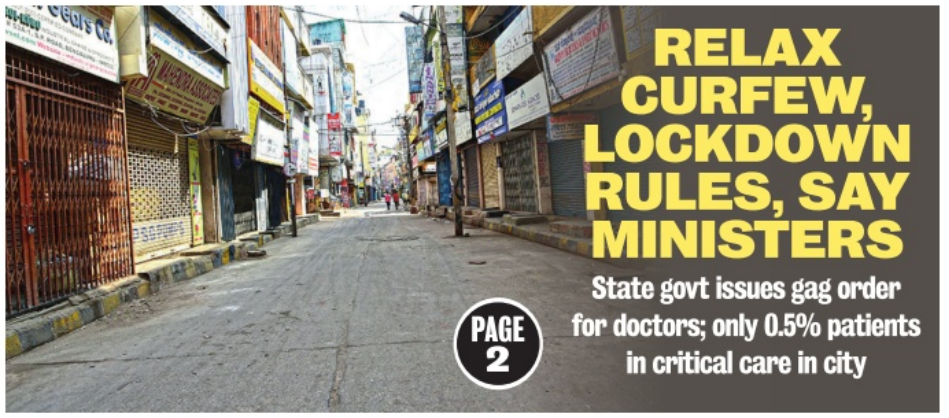
BENGALURU, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 14 | Humidity 53% Partly cloudy. Misty morning Sensex 60,754 | Nifty 18,113 | Gold 47,821 | Silver 61,800 | Dollar 74.61 | Euro 84.86 | GBP 101.35



RELAX CURFEW, LOCKDOWN RULES, SAY MINISTERS

State govt issues gag order for doctors; only 0.5% patients in critical care in city

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A SPACE TODDLERS CAN CALL THEIR OWN

Entries from B'luru, anganwadi & park in Shanti Nagar, bag pride of place in the Streets4People Challenge

PAGE 5

Though in-person lessons were allowed for class X and XII students in view of upcoming board exams, most classrooms remain vacant in Bengaluru

SCHOOL DAZE

Virtual reality: Covid fear crowds up online classrooms

Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Earlier this month, the Karnataka government had ordered schools to immediately stop in-person lessons for all standards except class X and XII.

Following the announcement, schools in the city kept their gates open for class X and XII students in the wake of the upcoming board examinations.

However, there are hardly any takers for in-person classroom lessons at schools in Bengaluru, as BM found out.

Thanks to the recent spike in covid-19 cases, Omicron variant-led, apparently, most of the city schools have gone back to the online mode of learning owing to poor attendance.

"We were foreseeing such a situation and gave the option for both offline and online mode of learning to the students. While the government has allowed in-person lessons at schools, many parents have decided against it. However, we are still managing both the sessions. In the last10 days or so, around 90% of the students have opted for online

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

PIC FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

"During January first week, there were a handful of students... While the government has allowed in-person classes, parents don't want to take chances. By January 10, not even a single student was in class..."

— Ramitha Ramachandran, principal, School of India

Covid or flu? No clue

Docs help differentiate between two infections with all-too similar symptoms

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Is it the flu? Or is it covid? A sniffle here, or a cough there, is throwing people into major confusion these days. As it is that time of the year, such symptoms are seen in most families, and some of the members test positive for covid while the others test negative.

Santosh, a resident of Nagarabhavi, told Bangalore Mirror that his whole family was down with flu-like symptoms and only he had a fever. "I tested positive and everyone in my family took the test. Of six of us, three tested positive for covid while three were negative and were told that they had the flu. All of us live under the same roof and eat together, so we don't understand how only three were positive when all of us had the same symptoms. We could not differentiate if it was covid or flu," he said.

He added, now that all of them visited the primary health centre (PHC), they are afraid they picked up a covid infection from there.

A BBMP official confirmed that this is not an isolated case. He said in some clusters, multiple variants are found in the same

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Palace talk

If history fascinates you, catch a special discussion on Palaces as Museums: Collecting and Connoisseurship in the states of Baroda and Mysore. Prof Janaki Nair and Dr Priya Maholay-Jaradi reflect on collecting and connoisseurship in the states of Baroda and Mysore, followed by a discussion with Prof Tapati Guha-Thakurta. This is part of a series of lectures and discussions on collections, museums, and the shaping of Indian art history curated by Guha-Thakurta.
Where: Zoom
When: Jan 21, 6pm
Register: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3dffLqLgSf2LKz4S-hTFlg

02 Improve your improv

Improv is an essential skill to have when pursuing acting. The sessions will take you through a gamut of emotions and a range of situations which will require your dramatic response. No prior theatre experience is required.

Where: Zoom
When: January 22nd onwards (10 sessions), Saturdays, 5 pm – 6.30 pm
Register: Rs 5,000, bangalorelittletheatre.org/improv/
Last Date for registration is Jan 19.

03 Ode to the countryside

KYNKYNY.com's latest virtual exhibition, 'Stories of the Land', celebrates the sublime sights, sounds and landscapes of rural India, meandering through tranquil hamlets, lush green fields and the lively markets and temples in the countryside. Featuring two prominent and well-loved contemporary artists, Mohan Naik and Sivabalan, the richly expressive artworks are an ode to the lesser-seen and known rural worlds of Goa and Tamil Nadu. The exhibition documents and celebrates the incandescent natural beauty as well as the rich culture, traditions and everyday sights in the region's villages and towns.
Where: KYNKYNY.com
When: Till Jan 31

Relax curfew, lockdown rules, say ministers

State govt issues gag order for doctors; only 0.5% patients in critical care in city

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With the State Government coming under pressure from various business sectors to lift the weekend curfew, Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi said that there was no need for a weekend curfew or lockdown.

"I feel that the State Government should give relaxation by lifting the weekend curfew as businesses should continue. The focus should be instead on micro-containment zones along with testing and tracking. As there has been a widespread vaccination process, we can focus on small containment zones."

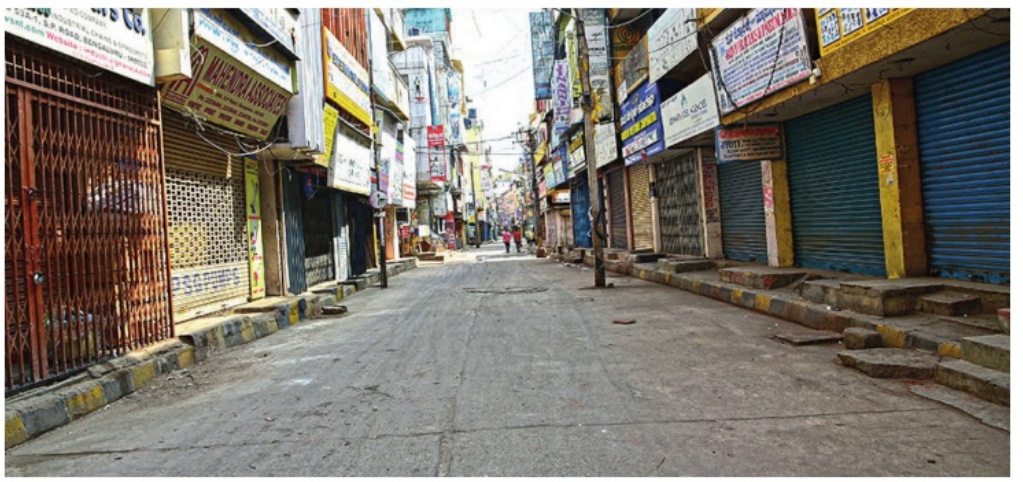
BJP's National General Secretary and Chikkamagaluru MLA CT Ravi said that lockdowns were not an option. Former Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy said, "I feel that it is better to close schools and hostels till February first week instead of imposing night curfew. The night curfew affects daily livelihood."

Meanwhile, Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka has urged the State Government to reopen schools stating that it was affecting the learning curve of students.

0.5% patients in critical care

BBMP Chief Commissioner Gaurav Gupta said there was a week-on-week increase of 250 per cent in Covid case numbers. "However, hospitalisations continued to be low as only 1.3 per cent of overall active cases are currently in hospitals. Less than 0.5 per cent were on critical beds. Paediatric cases have not seen a rise, among the active cases while 10 per cent of Covid cases are in the age group of 0-18 years. Among the 627 active containment zones, 385 are in apartments, followed by 214 individual houses, five schools/colleges and 23 hostels/PGs/others."

As of now, BBMP has identified 3,237 beds under government hospitals, 2,696 beds under government medical colleges, 13,540 beds under private hospitals, and 8,594 beds under private medical colleges, totalling to 28,067 beds. Of these, as of now 6,704 beds are made available for allotment under the CHBMS, and 637 are allotted by CHBMS (Government quota). The fees and charges of the private hospitals and private medical colleges are also regulated by the state government. (General Ward RS 10,000/day, HDU Ward Rs 12,000/day, ICU: Rs 15,000/day and ICU-Ventilator Ward Rs 25,000/day).



Not a soul in sight: An empty SP Road during the wekend curfew in Bengaluru

> **"Paediatric cases have not seen a rise, among the active cases while 10 per cent of Covid cases are in the age group of 0-18 years**
> –Gaurav Gupta, BBMP Commissioner

140 engineering students test positive

As many as 140 engineering students have tested positive for Covid-19 in Mandya on Tuesday. Following the development, PES Engineering College of Mandya declared a holiday for five days. According to district authorities, tests have been conducted on more than 350 students after few of them developed minor symptoms. Among those tested positive, 70 are isolated in hostel rooms.

Gag order for docs

Karnataka government has warned certain medical practitioners for allegedly spreading covid misinformation. In a statement on Tuesday, the Commissionerate of Health and Family Services said some medical practitioners were allegedly giving incomplete, inaccurate and unsubstantiated information about Covid-19.

The Commissionerate asked them to refer to the government guidelines, circulars and orders thoroughly before appearing on any media or social platform. "Any misinformation on Covid-19 shared would be deemed as an offence and necessary action would be initiated as per section 54 of Disaster Management Act, 2005 and section 4(K) of Karnataka Epidemic Disease Act, 2020," the Commissionerate warned in its statement.

(With inputs from agencies)

'Peak may see up to 1.2 lakh cases in K'taka'

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On Tuesday, a record 41,457 cases were reported in the state out of which, 25,595 were in Bengaluru alone. As the state is yet to reach the peak, experts are projecting various models for the peak.

Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar said that the experts have given various scenarios for the peak. "In the worst-case scenario, Covid cases may reach 1.2 lakh in the state while in the best-case scenario, it could be 80,000. As of Tuesday, the state has already breached the 40k mark which means that the experts' prediction is on the right path."

The test positivity rate in the State on Tuesday was 22.3 per cent and 25 per cent in Bengaluru. Tuesday's report also shows that there were 16,000 cases in non-Bengaluru region which is a pointer to the fact that cases were increasing in rural areas.

Dr Manindra Agrawal, Professor of IIT Kanpur, said that the third wave is predicted to peak on January 23.

Sudhakar said, "It appears that the cases may see a drop in February second or third week."

Dr Agrawal said that covid-19 was spreading faster in India than projected earlier. "There are two plausible reasons for this: 1) there are two groups in the population, one with less immunity against Omicron and the other with more. The mutant first spread in the first group causing a sharp rise. Now the first group is exhausted and so the spread is slower."

He further said, "Secondly, there was a lot of concern when Omicron started spreading, but in the last week or so, people almost everywhere have concluded that it causes only mild infection and have decided to handle it with standard remedies instead of getting tested."

(with inputs from agencies)

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Rayasandra residents take up the cudgels for craters

Citizens have brought cement blocks and sand to temporarily fix potholes in the area

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It has been years and years of pothole-ridden rides in Rayasandra, with rainy season being most troubling

For a Bengalurean, potholes and poor road conditions are an everyday problem. But in this case, the residents of Rayasandra have had to put up with a much more difficult challenge altogether. For the past five years, the residents have been living with bad roads with multiple potholes, broken streetlights and improper garbage-dumping. Fed up with the issues, the residents decided to take the first step of fixing the potholes.

In October last year, when BM spoke to the MLA Shivanna, he assured that he would have the roads fixed in a month's time, but residents pointed out that the road hadn't been fixed and they were still facing a tough time commuting on the stretch, with crater-like potholes present.

Residents of SJR Primecorp Apartments -- after getting tired of false promises by government – decided to take up the task of fixing some of the bigger craters in the road on Sunday. The residents brought in cement blocks and sand and filled the potholes to temporarily even out the stretch.

A resident from Rayasandra said: "Due to the crater-like potholes, commuters were having a tough time. More than 10 potholes were covered by us on the stretch. We have been waiting for the government to provide us with basic amenities from two-plus years but the situation has been the same. Many two-wheeler riders have met with accidents on these big potholes."

> **"More than 10 potholes were covered by us on the stretch. We have been waiting for the government to provide us with basic amenities from two-plus years but the situation has been the same**
> –A resident

Another resident said: "All roads in the neighbourhood are in pathetic condition. Nothing seems to be moving. No visible action in several months and years. More dwellers and vehicle movement has increased and this is hampering the roads even more and eventually people are suffering with the bad quality of roads."

Over 5,000 residents live at Rayasandra, and all then are living this daily nightmare. The road that connects Hosa Road and Sarjapur Road has been in a deplorable condition.

Another resident said, "We have done a temporary fix by laying the stones, but the entire road needs to be re-done as it is in a dilapidated state. We have also asked for clearing the garbage and even proper drainage facilities. None of it is provided. If we ask the officials, they ask us to reach out to other officials and we are running helter-skelter."

BM tried calling the panchayat official and elected representatives, but they were not available for a comment.

First white-topping & now Metro work

Traffic woes on portion of ORR seem to be never-ending as one work got over after years and next begins

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Despite traffic cops creating diversions, commuters say there's no difference made to the never-ending traffic

A portion of the newly made white-topped road on the Outer Ring Road is being dug up for airport Metro work. Locals and commuters are worried over the traffic congestion caused by white-topping for three years.

Divya Hari, a resident, complains that white-topping work caused congestion in small lanes, which overcrowds residential areas. She stated that it is the local security guards of apartment complexes who would clear the roads.

Harikrishna, 30, said, "White-topping had caused a lot of inconvenience for years. When they finally thought it was over, the metro construction started."

Traffic woes

In dealing with the city's traffic, a BBMP official said the traffic police have sealed one half of a road for Metro construction, while the other half is used as a diversion for vehicles.

"We have given all permissions required to the traffic department, and they have been creating diversions and controlling traffic," a police official said. A traffic cop in Hebbal on the Outer Ring Road said they were working under pressure. "We are doing our best by creating diversions. Since it is the Outer Ring Road, we cannot stop traffic completely," she said.

At Hebbal, roads are busier than usual. Traffic police have attempted to create diversions in the area, but commuters find no difference. Sunil, a delivery executive, said he spends more than an hour on a one-way route. Calling himself a 'victim', he blames the increasing traffic on the white-topping project and calls out the traffic police for not doing their jobs well.

BMRCL MD Anjum Parwez said: "We have received permission from BBMP for the work. The entire stretch will not be cut open for the purpose. Only the area around the median required to erect the metro piers will be dug up. The area under construction will be barricaded and the ongoing traffic will not be disturbed. As soon as the construction work is completed, white-topping will be restored."

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Open manhole

Banashankari

An exposed manhole cover and a damaged road on 27th Cross, 30th Main, Banashankari 2nd Stage, poses a threat to motorists.

No place to walk

Ramaiah Hospital

Construction work on the pavement near Ramaiah Hospital, 80 Feet Road, forces pedestrians to walk on the road instead while passing this stretch of the road.

Trash overflowing

BDA complex, Banashankari

Excess garbage at BDA Complex, Banashankari 2nd Stage, flows onto the pavement. The frequency of garbage collection has to be increased and the garbage bins have to be placed at a few more places surrounding the BDA complex to prevent overflow of garbage onto the pavement.

A space toddlers can call their own

Entries from B'luru, anganwadi & park in Shanti Nagar, bag pride of place in the Streets4People Challenge

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Bengaluru has enhanced the safety of an anganwadi to foster independence in toddlers; (inset) pilot project

Bengaluru has emerged as one of the top 11 awardees for the pilot stage of the Streets4People Challenge conducted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Bengaluru has bagged this honour for creating public spaces in residential areas with involvement of resident welfare associations.

The report highlights that Bengaluru has enhanced the safety of an anganwadi to foster independence in toddlers.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs organised an event, wherein it announced names of 11 winning cities for the Streets for People Challenge. The cities will now enter the scale-up stage of the challenge, wherein the projects undertaken in the pilot stage will now be scaled up in a sustainable manner.

Bengaluru tested public space interventions designed to foster independence in small children, such as low-height railings, child-sized washbasins and pocket-sized parks close to home.

The entry from Bengaluru was an anganwadi located in the dense neighbourhood of Shanti Nagar. This anganwadi was part of a school campus without any delineated play spaces. The anganwadi was refurbished with dedicated play spaces of around 300 square metres for young children by adding age-specific play opportunities, appropriating handrails, toilet and wash basin to children's height, connecting paths and seating for caregivers.

This has encouraged children to be more independent. The other entry from the city was the tiny park which was earlier a dump yard in Shanti Nagar. "Accessibility to public open spaces in brownfield areas is a challenge. Therefore, the concept of pocket parks for dense developments was developed. Underutilised space of 90 square metres was converted into a play and interactive place for young children and caregivers, who also participated in the implementation of the project. This enabled a sense of ownership for the public space within the community and served around 45 children and 100 caregivers," the report said.

> **Space spread over 90 sq m was converted into an interactive place for kids and caregivers** – Report

As part of the design competition, Bengaluru conducted various activities including a walking audit, consultation sessions, and online and offline jury sessions.

ADVERTORIAL

A DIETARY SUPPLEMENT TO HELP FIGHT COVID

How did human beings survive for thousands of years, wandering in the forest without getting infected and succumbing to COVID or other viruses? There were no big pharmaceuticals, medical schools or research labs. The answer to that is the immunity or resistance they had against infections. The most reasonable argument is their dietary habits, mobility in the forest, added with natural medicines protected them from infections. The dietary habits of the population have drastically changed in the last few years. Cheese which was not a part of an Indian kitchen has invaded every household. Even the vegetables we eat are different in comparison to what was on the plate a few decades ago. Most of the population wouldn't have heard of the tender leaves of Melastoma, Cassia tora or the fruits of Mucuna prurient as a vegetable. There were nearly 10 types of Yam used in Malnad and the Coastal regions of Karnataka. Seasonal consumption of wildflowers and leaves was a ritual in Kerala. Bamboo shoots were consumed during the early monsoon while 5 verities of Taro (Colocasia) were a delicacy. We have a parochial vision of looking at plants only for their nutritional value and general taste. Through agro-technology and hybridiztion, most of the vegetables are chosen because of their taste. Sweet tastes dominate the vegetables while bitters and astringent tastes have disappeared from our diet. We have lost the ability to enjoy bitters. Primary metabolites like carbohydrates, fats and proteins get attention for their nutritional value. We have failed to focus on the health benefits of secondary metabolites, which are present in plants. Secondary metabolites can protect us against bacteria, viruses and fungi. It is a known fact that the gut microbiome plays a major role in our health, including monitoring immunity and inflammation. We need to bring back ancient diets and refurbish our gut microbiome with these secondary metabolites along with essential dietary fibers. Atrimed has carried out extensive research on secondary metabolites of plants and demonstrated that they can inhibit and prevent the replication of SARS CoV-2. When Centella asiatica (Mandooka parni) and Withania Somnifera were tested against SARS CoV-2 at the Regional Centre for Biotechnology, Faridabad, under the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, they exhibited an inhibitory ability of 99.99%. Since these two plants are classified as food by the Food Safety Standard of India (FSSAI), they can be consumed safely by the general public as an added preventive measure against current diseases. Atrimed has developed a product using these foods called "Plant Diet- Infection Care", an over-the-counter product that can be consumed safely without a prescription. In these pandemic times, since there is a need for several tools to combat the virus, "Plant Diet- Infection Care" has received good appreciation from users for its ability to make the infection milder and recovery faster. It is not a cure but only a supportive measure. The product is available online on Amazon, Flipkart, plantscience.shop and also with Ayurvedic shops and leading modern chemists.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAMYA R, aged about 24 Years, D/o Ravi Kumar R/at 38 No.7, Hongasandra, Begur Main Road, Opp State Bank of India Bangalore- 560068 have changed my name to FARHA FATHIMA I Undertake to religion Hindu to Islam vide affidavit dated: 29/12/2021 Before Notary Meer Hassan Bangalore

I, ALEKKADI GOPAL KARMBERA residing at No.12, F-642, 12th Cross, East-West College main road, BEL Layout, Bharath Nagar, Bangalore-560091 here by delcare that ALEKKADI GOPAL KARMBERA and ALEKKADI GOPALA KARMBERA both the names belongs to me only vide affidavit dated 18.01.2022 before notary Devaraja .E, Bangalore.

I Vijay Sharma S/O, Shri Ram Narain Sharma R/o B-1101, Salarpuria Symphony, Hosur Road, Basapura, Bangalore 560100 have changed my name to Vijay Kumar

I, Jhimli Paul D/O Arabinda Paul, R/o Sri, Lakshmi Narasimha Ladies PG, Near Big Bazaar, ITPL Main Road, Kundanahalli Gate, Whitefield, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560066 , have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Mahi Paul.

I, P. Supragnya Subudhi R/o #352, Maruthi Residency, Flat No. 102, 1st Floor, Singasandra, AECS Layout,B-Block, B'lore-68 have changed my name to Supragnya Rabindra Sahu vide affidavit dtd 18.01.2022 before Notary B M Chandrashekar

I Kaundinya Sindhu Mahadev W/O, Anil Kumar P R/o 105 Rohitha Gardens Tatanagar, Kodigehalli have changed my name to Sindhu Anil Kumar for all purposes.Afdvt dtd 17/01/2022, bfr Notary K.V.Nanjaiah.

I, SHIVU R, S/o. Rajikannu M., R/o. #2/62, Vadavirinji Puram, Kothamangalam, Katpadi, Vellore, TN-632104, have changed my name to ELANGO R vide affidavit dt: 18/01/22 before Notary K. Muralidharan, B'lr.

I, Darshan R S/O Raveendra P,R/o 77/1, Kaparanakoppalu, Darasaguppe, Mandya, Karnataka- 571435 have changed the name of my minor daughter Lahari D aged about 4 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Cherika Lahari D .

I Shyni Kuttappa Chokanda D/o Kuttappa.C.M R/o Flat 4141, Tower 4 Prestige Lakeside Habitat, 28/2 Sh 35 Devasthanagalu Gunjur Village Varthur B'luru 560086 Have Changed My Daughter's Name From Anona Chenanda Devaiah To Anona Kaveramma Chenanda For All Purposes

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I Harish S/O, Vasant Pawar R/o #102, 3rd Floor, Kirthi Mansion, 2nd Cross Vignan Nagar-560075 Bengaluru have changed my name to Harish Vasant Pawar for all purposes.

I Shyni Chenanda Devaiah, D/o Kuttappa.C.M, R/o,flat 4141 Tower 4 Prestige Lakeside Habitat, 28/2 Sh 35 Devasthanagalu Gunjur Village,varthur Bangalore 560087.have Changed My Name To,shyni Kuttappa Chokanda,for All Purposes.

I, Harikandan Munusamy S/O Munusamy, R/o 4, Cholan Street, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu- 620007, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Harry.

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TIMES inter ACT
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Summary of Placements 2020-2021	
Total no. of Companies (On / Off Campus)	65
On campus - 35	Off campus - 30
Total No. of Students enrolled	176
Total No. of Students not opted for Placements	15
Total No. of Students opted for Placements	161
Total No. of Students Placed	150
Highest package	12.00L/A
Median package	5.50L/A

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Joining pieces of history

Dating back to 1350, inscription carries perhaps the evidence of the earliest school

Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The restoration team photographed with the centuries-old inscription

A team of experts recently restored a stone carrying inscriptions on Agrahara. The historical piece of art, found adjacent to Jakkur, was cracked into two pieces about 10 years ago during road construction work. A few years ago, it was relocated inside a nearby temple.

The team of Mythic Society discovered the broken inscription while creating digital copies of the inscriptions in 2018. Seeing the state of the inscription, they suggested and moved the inscription inside the temple.

In an attempt to restore the inscription to its former glory, the team contacted Aesthetic Architects, who in turn gave the contract of the restoration work to another Mumbai-based company. The restoration work could not be handled by any ordinary restorer; it required a very careful rejoining with the least damage to the piece.

Yashaswini Sharma, founder of Aesthetic Architect, said: "The five-inch-thick inscription needed to be put together. Our challenge was to put these pieces together without harming the data. This inscription had writings on both sides and we could not use a clamp. If we put cement or any other material, it could pour into the writings. Besides, it was an angular cut; there was a chance of the pieces sliding down."

After discussing with contractor Jeernodhar Conservators Pvt Ltd, we decided to use steel dowels to connect the pieces, she said. "Making two tiny holes, steel dowels were put inside and the transparent sealant was used. A few more minor chippings were fixed as well. To prevent sliding over many years due to weathering, the lower side was given support with a stone."

The team found an appropriate site inside the temple to place the stone. But, the site had the root of a tree sticking out. Over the course of a few days, the team constructed a new platform to erect the stone inside the temple. The challenge was to make sure minimal holes are drilled to prevent splitting.

> **We had to ensure that the stone was not scratched. It requires an experienced team for such tasks**
>
> –Yashaswini Sharma, founder, Aesthetic Architect

Another challenge was that the stone was heavy and it was just fixed together. Hence, it was moved manually. "Even while putting on the harness, we had to make sure the stone was not even scratched. It requires a well-experienced restoration team to carry out such a task," added Sharma.

Dating back to 1350, the inscription written in Tamil tells a story of a man's generosity and perhaps the evidence of the earliest school. "On the death ceremony of his parents, Arulalar Kannapan built a university village that lasted 800 years. There is still a government school that stands there as a continuation of the tradition. Another significance of this place is that education in India used to happen through agraharas. Known by many names across the country, the tradition dates back at least 1,000 years. They used to be centred on learning science, mathematics, astronomy, medicine and religious texts. In a way, a lot of scholars and scholarly texts have arisen out of this place," said Udaya Kumar PL, a prominent historian on inscriptions.

Noting that there are still at least 8-9 places named Agrahara in the city, Udaya added that these places served as informal schools but were phased out with British colonisation. "The Britishers brought in their formal education system and established western subjects into the curriculum. Traditional subjects were discarded, languages were on the decline and the study of religion was cast away. The propagation of arts and culture and religions has always been interconnected. With religion now out of the equation, arts and culture were declining. Over time, these agraharas became redundant"

Hospital staffer flees after stealing ₹6L

Colleague gave him money requesting to deposit it to a personal account

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A housekeeping staff at a private hospital in Mahadevapura has been charged of stealing nearly Rs 6 lakh, which was given to him by another employee to deposit the amount to someone's bank account. Meanwhile, the accused deposited the money in his bank account and fled the city along with his family.

Manoramma (name changed), a resident of Medahalli and an employee with a city hospital, filed a complaint with the Mahadevapura police on Saturday against the accused, Santosh Kumar Mishra and three suspects, Kumari, Swami and Dhanalakshmi.

She told the police that earlier in November, she had given Mishra Rs 50,000 to deposit in the hospital's bank account when he worked accordingly and returned with the receipt.

Trusting him, she again handed over Rs 5,85,000 last Wednesday, asking him to deposit the money to a bank account and shared the details with him. Later, as she did not hear from him, she called him around 1:30 pm to check when his phone was switched off, she stated.

She added that he had planned to cheat her by gaining her trust and fled with her money. Manoramma suspects that his wife Kumari and two others were also involved in it.

A senior police officer said that the accused, Mishra who is a native of Bihar, has fled to his village on the same day. "The hospital staff do not know his address in Bihar or any information about him and his family. He has fled along with his wife on the same day and has discarded his sim card. Though the staff suspected a few others involvement in the crime, during the investigation, we learnt that he committed the crime alone and others were not aware of it. We immediately froze his bank account and seized half of the money while he managed to withdraw the remaining half," he said.

> **Mishra's wife Kumari and two others are prime suspects. Police said that he committeed the crime alone**

The Mahadevapura police have registered a case and are on the lookout for the accused.

BENGALURU

Man booked for seeking 'favours' from tenant

A man was booked for allegedly gifting lingerie to his tenant on her birthday and seeking sexual favours, police said on Tuesday.

The tenant, a 42-year-old school teacher, filed the complaint against Padmanabha, a resident of Srinagar, with the Hanumanthanagar police station in Bengaluru. According to the police, the woman has been living in the rental house for the past 12 years. After gifting the lingerie, Padmanabha allegedly sought sexual favours over the phone. When she turned down his requests, he started asking her to vacate the house. He once locked her from outside when she was sleeping, alleged the woman.

The landlord pleaded innocence and alleged that since he asked her to vacate the house, a false complaint had been lodged against him.

—IANS

CM's security officers held for drug peddling

Two police constables deputed as security officers at the residence of Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai were arrested on Tuesday for allegedly running a drug racket, and selling 'ganja' in Bengaluru.

The policemen -- identified as Shivakumar and Santhosh, attached to Koramangala police station, were deputed as security officers at the R.T. Nagar residence of CM Bommai, in Bengaluru.

According to police, the accused have obtained drugs from drug peddlers and sold them to customers.

While receiving the drugs, they had an argument with the drug peddlers over the issue of payment.

The accused had received the parcel of 'ganja' near the CM Bommai's residence.

—IANS

NATION

Bhagwant Mann is AAP's CM face in Punjab

The Aam Aadmi Party on Tuesday declared its Punjab unit president Bhagwant Mann the party's chief ministerial candidate and the comedian-turned-politician vowed to bring the state's glory days back.

The two-time Sangrur MP turned emotional -- seemingly wiping tears -- as AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal announced the party's choice, saying 93 per cent of respondents had picked him in a poll in which people phoned in or sent messages indicating their choice.

Kejriwal, the Delhi chief minister, told reporters in Mohali that 21.59 lakh people responded to the "Janta Chunegi Apna CM" campaign. The "votes" cast in Kejriwal favour were termed invalid, as he had earlier declared that he is not in the Punjab race.

— Agencies

K'taka is the ideal destination, Mr Musk

State is the latest to extend invite to Tesla's founder to set up plant

Joining the growing list of Indian states wooing Tesla's billionaire founder and CEO Elon Musk to start a manufacturing unit, Karnataka on Tuesday too signed up saying it was the "Electric Vehicle (EV) hub" of India and an ideal destination to set up a plant.

Several Indian states like Telangana, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Punjab and Tamil Nadu have already invited Musk to set up shop.

"With over 400 R&D centres, 45+ EV startups & an EV cluster near Bengaluru, Karnataka has emerged as EV hub of India. Mr @elonmusk, Karnataka would be an ideal destination to set up @Tesla plant. Bengaluru is already Tesla's maiden address in India," Karnataka Minister for Large and Medium-scale Industries Murugesh R Nirani tweeted.

Musk had recently tweeted that the US-based firm is working through a lot of challenges with the government to launch its products in India.

"Still working through a lot of challenges with the government," Musk tweeted in reply to a Twitter user, who asked: "Yo @elonmusk any further update as to when Tesla's will launch in India? They're pretty awesome and deserve to be in every corner of the world!"

In January 2021, Tesla registered its Indian arm amid indications that the company is set to enter the country's automobile market.

According to a regulatory filing, the firm registered Tesla India Motors and Energy Pvt Ltd with RoC (Registrar Of Companies) Bengaluru.

The company has been registered as an unlisted private entity with a paid-up capital of Rs 1 lakh.

A 2021 Model 3 sedan charges at a Tesla dealership

> **"With over 400 R&D centres, 45+ EV startups & an EV cluster near Bengaluru, Karnataka has emerged as EV hub of India**
>
> –Murugesh R Nirani, Large and Medium-scale Industries Minister

In February 2021, the then Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa too had said that "American firm Tesla will set up the car-manufacturing unit in Karnataka."

Last year, Tesla had sought a reduction in import duties on electric vehicles (EVs) in India.

The union heavy industries ministry had asked the electric car major to first start manufacturing its iconic electric vehicles in India before any tax concessions can be considered.

The government sources had noted that they were not giving such concessions to any auto firm, and giving duty benefits to Tesla will not send a good signal to other companies that have invested billions of dollars in India.

At present, cars imported as completely built units (CBUs) attract customs duty, ranging from 60 to 100 per cent, depending on the engine size and cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value less or above USD 40,000.

–PTI

X, XII students queue up for online classes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lessons. We have segregated the sections for online and offline and have appointed two teachers for every subject to take classes simultaneously," said Mansoor Ali Khan, member, Delhi Public School board management.

According to school managements, both parents and students are fearful of the current situation and do not want to be at the campus till they are fully vaccinated.

"Currently, we are going ahead with periodic online tests, and we plan to call students on campus once the situation improves. Many of the students have started their vaccinations and once they are fully vaccinated, parents will feel safer to send them for physical classes. Some are also struggling to get vaccination done as it is unavailable in some places. There is still time for the final examination, and we are hoping to conduct preboards in real classrooms," said Latha L, vice-principal, Harvest International School.

School managements BM spoke to said they had all the plans to start in-person sessions for those appearing in the board examinations this year: but, once the school reopened post the Christmas vacation, the scenario completely changed.

Students are afraid to attend offline classes as many are not yet vaccinated

"By the first week of January, there were a handful of students in the campus. While the government has allowed in-person classes, parents are not sure and don't want to take chances. By January 10, not even a single student was in the class, although we had arranged transport facilities. Thus, we decided to go back to the online mode of learning," said Ramitha Ramachandran, principal, School of India.

Schools are hopeful the situation will improve soon, and the board examinations will be held in real classrooms.

"We conducted a survey to understand the willingness of class X and XII students to attend physical classes and more than 60% said they don't want to come to the school. Parents don't want to take chances. Thus, we had already decided to not have face-to-face classes this year despite the government's nod to continue with in-person sessions. However, we are expecting the situation to improve by March. Students will come for practical examinations and hopefully the board examinations will be in-person," said Dr M Srinivasan, founder and chairman, GEAR Innovative International School.

Is it flu or covid-19?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

family and some family members of the cluster have tested negative. "Though many have symptoms, they are not going out to get tested. Many are confused between flu and covid and don't want to take the risk of going to the PHC due to fear," he said.

Dr Jagadish Hiremath of Aasra Hospital said it is always advisable to get tested before confirming it is covid as these days the coronavirus infection is presenting symptoms like a common flu. "Visiting hospitals will not put people at risk of contracting covid as all PHCs and hospitals are now geared up with all safety measures. Visiting a doctor is always the proper way to deal with ill health. And now, when covid is manifesting in different forms, it is only at a clinical setup that one can know if the infection is flu or if there is a need to take covid test. Self-medication is never a good idea," he said.

Dr Satyanarayana Mysore of Manipal Hospital said targeted testing is key."While it is important to take the test, it is also critical to isolate even if there are cold or respiratory symptoms. Testing a population of 1.3 billion is difficult and therefore targeted testing is the key. If you're diabetic or elderly, testing is indicated as per the ICMR guidelines," he said.

The key differences

Dr Mysore said that differentiating between covid and the flu is difficult but one must isolate if they have any symptoms.

"Given the fact that symptoms of cold and Omicron are mild, it is important not to panic; do not go for anti-viral and costly treatments. Your trusted doctor will be able to give you generic medicine. Focus should be on those who are senior citizens, diabetic, have renal failure, lowered immunity, medications and immunosuppressive treatments," he said.

Dr Hiremath said if flu persists for more than four days, it is a cause for alarm and time to get tested because flu mostly persists for one to four days after infection. "Other symptoms of covid are headache, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea and shortness of breath."

Pulmonologist Dr Sumant Mantri of Apollo Hospitals said Omicron symptoms are common. "One of the major differences is the severe body ache, throat pain and nasal conditions. These are symptoms which tend to give us a direction towards possible covid-19. Fever may also be present and if fever continues beyond 3-4 days then one should get an RT-PCR test," he said.

He said the younger population, as symptoms are mild, can isolate themselves, wait at home and take paracetamol and multivitamins.

HEALTH TIP: A high carbohydrate diet could include grains which are a quick source of energy for the body and can trigger the release of insulin

A whole egg is loaded with vitamins A, D, E, K, and six different B vitamins

BangaloreMirror | 9
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
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BEST OF
DR MAHINDER WATSA

The finest responses of Dr Watsa are being republished in this column as a tribute to him.

1 I'm an 18-year-old man. When I masturbate, my sperm doesn't come out in a forceful manner. Why does this happen? Is there a diet that will help? Is it possible that it's because I've been masturbating since I was 13?
So long as your sperms are discharging, though it may not be as forceful as you wish, I see no problem. Start doing Kegel exercises (surf the net to know more about exercises). No special diet is required as long as you are eating healthy food.

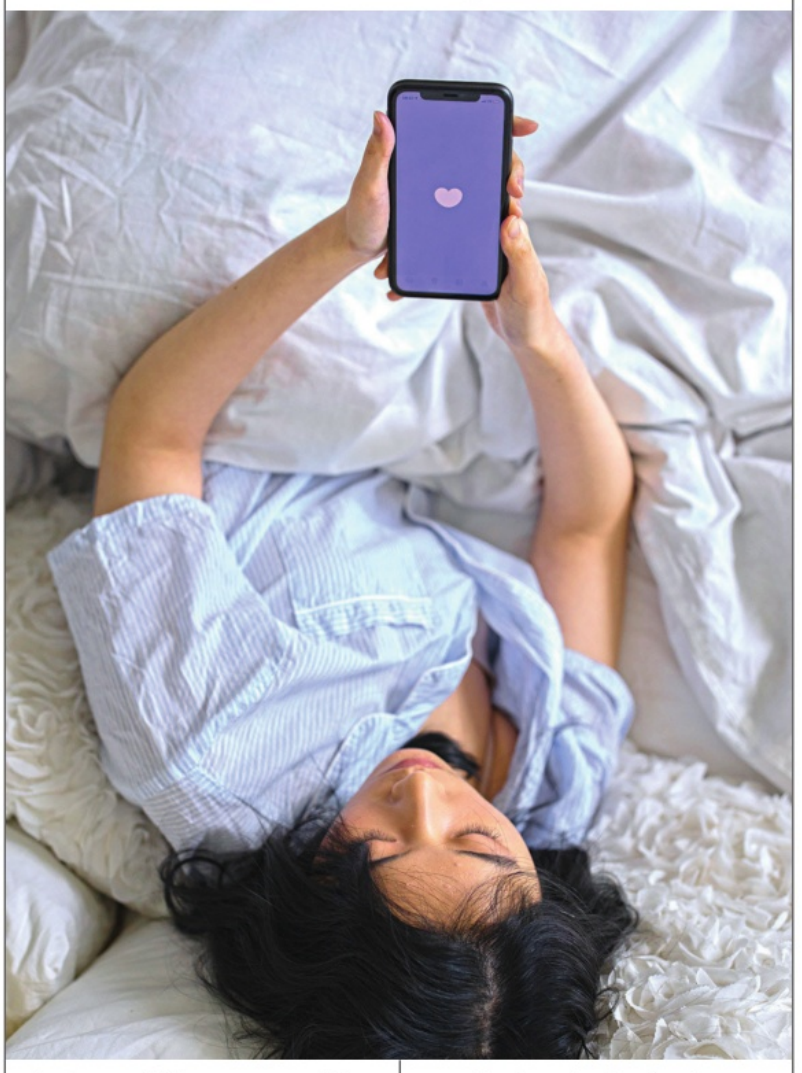
2 I am a 60-year-old man and I'm suffering from Cardiomyopathy and taking metocard XL 50. My blood report is normal. My erections are not hard and do not last long. Kindly help with the same.
Since you have a cardiac problem and are under treatment of the cardiologist, kindly consult him whether it is in order for to take a pill like Tadalafil or Sildenafil, popularly known as Viagra.

3 I am 20 years old. My girlfriend and I are planning to have intercourse but I am afraid because I suffer from premature ejaculation. Can you advise me on how to satisfy my partner and how to deal with premature ejaculation? And also if we want to have oral sex, do we have to use protection? Is protection healthy during oral sex?
Ideally, you should visit a sexpert to clarify a number of matters that will make you happier. In the meanwhile, you may start confido tablets – one in the morning and one in the evening before meals – for six weeks.

MEET THE SEXPERTS
Use this QR code to send your questions to us

SWIPE RIGHT FOR LOVE

41% of dating app users are on the lookout for something more serious



When dating apps first arrived in India, they were accused of encouraging the casual 'hook-up' culture, and many were hesitant to admit to using them. Today's youth are more self-assured and open. A majority of them utilise multiple dating apps since it provides them with a larger pool of options. The question then becomes, "Do individuals find love using dating apps?"

QuackQuack, a desi dating app with 15 million users in the 18-35 age bracket split throughout small (70 per cent) and metro (30 per cent) areas, conducted a poll among its users in order to address a huge and curious group of people.

A majority are looking for something serious

Everyone uses dating apps for a different reason. It's a match when two people have the same goal in mind. According to the report, 41 per cent of male users and 7 per cent of female users are in a casual relationship, a significant difference between the genders. While 41 per cent of users are on the lookout for something more serious.

Saved from embarrassment and made men more confident

It's not every day that you run across someone of your type in a pub or at the supermarket. In the midst of the pandemic, it's practically impossible to say no. A staggering 73 percent of female users claim that internet dating has saved them from awkward first dates where they had to make up an excuse to leave in the middle. They can get to know their match better through online dating before going on a real date. 82 percent of male users claim that internet dating has increased their confidence in approaching a girl since they know it's a fit. Some men may have to cope with rejection firsthand if it isn't online or mutual.

Profile pictures and selfie verification badges make it easier to trust

Did momma tell you not to talk to strangers? Your mom would be furious if she gets to know what you have been up to. Well! It's usual to have doubts about people on dating apps. Among the users under the age of 30, a large number of men, 72 percent, and 58 percent of women first notice the profile pictures of potential matches, while 71.5 percent of users say that a selfie verification badge helps them to trust that the person is genuine and encourages them to approach first.

Finding love has become easy with virtual dating

People used dating apps to form emotional relationships and find love during the pandemic, when everyone was home sheltering. In the last two years, more over half of male users under 30 (56 percent) have gone on more than three dates, the majority of which were virtual. In the last two years, however, 72 percent of women had gone on less than two dates.

Women want a lifetime companionship

A majority of women, 55 percent, and 48 percent of men, out of 41 percent of users who desire something permanent with their spouse, want to see their connection blossom into a lifetime companionship. Women, by a margin of 26%, are more eager to create a family and have children than males.

"Online dating applications have made it feasible for users to meet people who are outside of their social and geographical circle," said Ravi Mittal, founder and CEO of QuackQuack. We've had a lot of women sign up for our app in the previous year. It occurred because more people are becoming genuine on dating apps, and online dating has taken on a life of its own. It's not just a passing fancy; there's a lot more to it."

Only flings and hook-ups should not be used to describe online dating. People nowadays are yearning for an emotional connection. They can dive into a pool of matches and expose them to the outside world using these platforms. They may be compatible with a variety of people, but the most of them are looking for something permanent and long-term. Women, in particular, are eager to marry and begin a family with their present online dating partner. This revelation should suffice to prove that love may be found on dating apps. —IANS

MIRRORLIGHTS

Orange, the winterchild

One fruit that seems to be more beneficial than others is the humble orange. Studies suggest the phytochemicals in oranges help protect us from conditions like heart disease and cancer. Additionally, oranges also help lower blood pressure and are loaded with unmatchable benefits. "As far as seasonal fruits are concerned, oranges are eaten in winter. They not only add to the nutritional value of your meals, but also help to maintain weight and prevent several diseases," says Dietitian Vidhi Chawla.

Why are they special:

1. Loaded with Vitamin C: Vitamin C helps maintain collagen, a type of protein that binds skin tissues, and well-maintained collagen helps to reduce wrinkles and prevent early ageing. It is also necessary for bones, muscles, hair, tendons, and ligaments. It provides strength to the body and helps in healing wounds faster.

2. Help in maintaining weight: The high fibre-content found in oranges makes us feel fuller faster and for longer. It also aids digestion. If you are on a weight-reducing schedule, satiate your craving for sweets with this fruit. It is low in calories and has zero fat.

3. Improve immunity: Adequate consumption of oranges helps to maintain immunity in the body. Vitamin B6 found in oranges helps to increase hemoglobin, and nutrients like vitamin C also strengthen the system.

4. Lead to better vision: Oranges help to improve eyesight and maintain eye health. These citrus fruits help in battling cataracts. Daily consumption of oranges can help get rid of dark circles as well, along with a corrected sleeping routine.

—Femina

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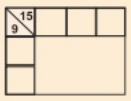
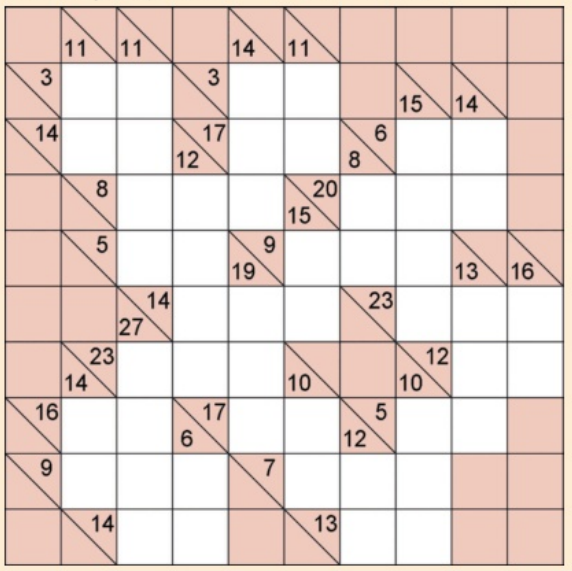
Kakuro



The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



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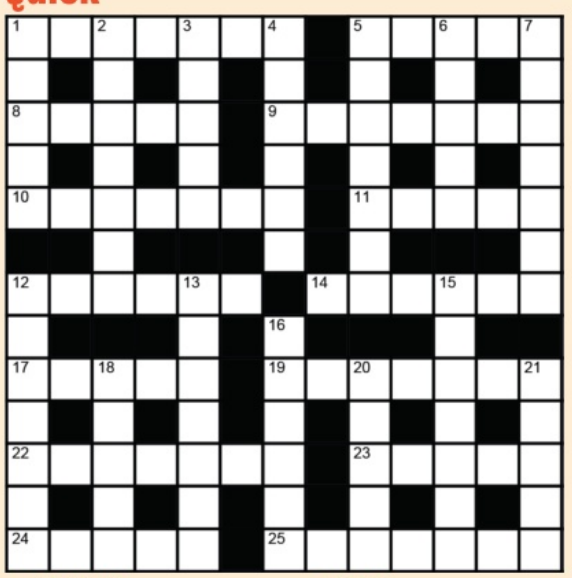


ACROSS

1 Prevailing or widespread (7)
5 Covered with hard or sticky mass (5)
8 Peer Gynt author (5)
9 Experience (7)
10 Seventh day (7)
11 Belly button (5)
12 Weeping (6)
14 A water tap in one's house? (6)
17 Mitigates or reduces in intensity (5)
19 Always young (7)
22 Dirty or filthy (7)
23 Groom's partner (5)
24 Anger or irk (5)
25 Inasmuch as; since? (3,4)

DOWN

1 Gives out (5)
2 Step out of line (7)
3 High-IQ society (5)
4 Nabbed (6)
5 Musical flourish (7)
6 Ballet company (5)
7 Tiny quantity of liquid (7)
12 2020-21 Champions League champions (7)
13 Through the nose (7)
15 Hold dear (7)
16 ___ City: Bangalore of course (6)
18 Rebuff (5)
20 Arm joint (5)
21 The opposite of sour (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: V EQUALS W

VS BWVBJC WZLS IKUCS VKU BRHZPS YC; VS RU MUI BWVBJC WZLS IKUCS VKUH VS BRHZPS.

Linemaro

You smell great, which perfume do you wear

Mindchow

Trust only movement. Life happens at the level of events, not of words

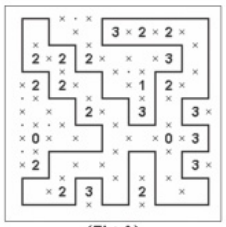
Joke of the day

One nice thing about egotists: They don't talk about other people

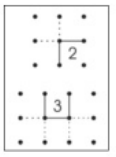
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



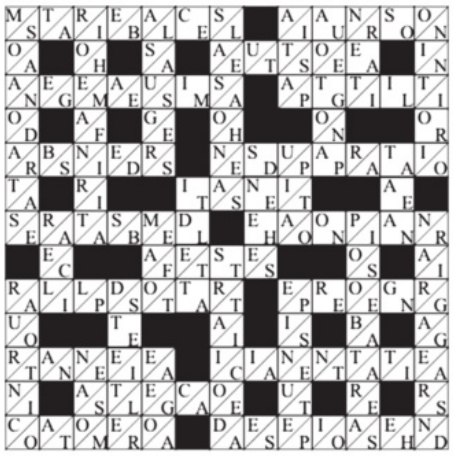
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

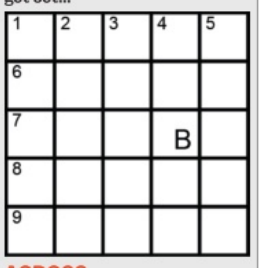
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

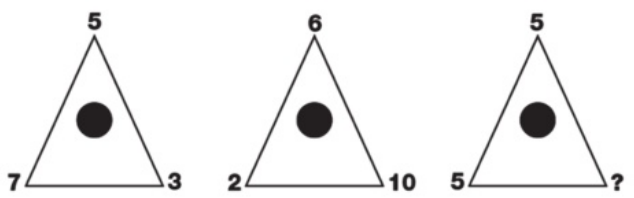
1 D puss; 6 E teen; 7 I rob I; 8 Or duo; 9 GNP us

DOWN

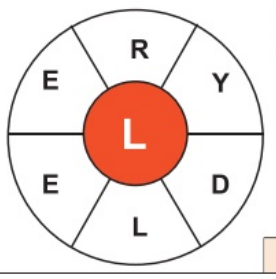
1 To sop; 2 Duper; 3 I noun; 4 Budge; 5 Sir ST

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

5		6		3				2
			1		5	8		
					7		6	4
	5					7		6
			5		9			
1		7					2	
4	2		8					
		8	7		6			
6				1		9		3

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 10

4 4 6 8

Medium = 4

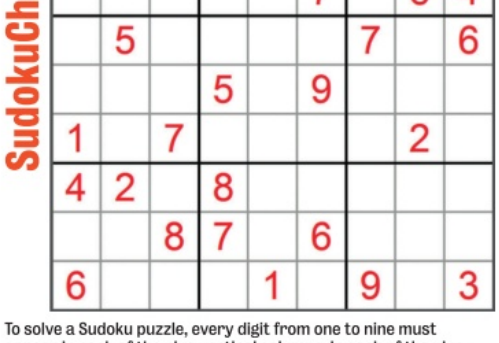
4 7 7 8

Hard = 24

1 8 9 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Mailbox post is thicker. 2. Ear is larger. 3. Pocket is missing. 4. Patch on sleeve is different. 5. Nose is moved. 6. Leaves are added.

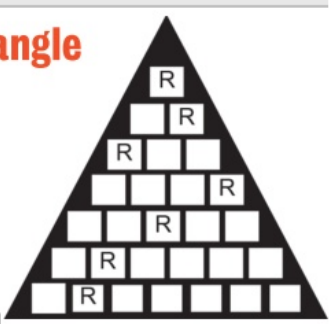
Riddler

Here are some well-known expressions rewritten into "Cliff-ese". For those of you who don't know what that means, he was a very wordy person on the TV show "Cheers" and never used a small word where a larger one would work. Try to figure out the phrases in simpler terms.

1. To place a primitive agricultural conveyance in a position anterior to the animal Equus caballus.
2. It requires a number of people greater than one to perform a terpsichorean series of low dips and twisting steps on the toes.

Alpha triangle

1 18th letter
2 Atomic number 18
3 Pack animal?
4 The sun, for one
5 Hat material
6 Most ironic
7 Authors



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Wayno & Piraro 11-16-21 ©2021 Bizarro Studios
I'm losing it? That's rich coming from a talking coconut.
BIZARRO.COM Dist. by King Features

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

Crankshaft

OUR HOMEOWNER'S POLICY WASN'T CANCELED BECAUSE OF THE TREE FIRE...
IT WAS APPARENTLY CANCELED BECAUSE OF TWENTY-THREE CHIMNEY FIRES...
THIRTY-SEVEN GRILL EXPLOSIONS...
SETTING A GUTTER FULL OF LEAVES ON FIRE... AND, WELL, THE LIST GOES ON...
BATIUK & DAVIS
11-4

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may be dissatisfied and there will be some sort of detachment from your responsibilities, which may confuse you. You may hypothetically plan for your projects. You are advised to be practical in your work to complete it on time. You may also take care of your parents. If you're planning to migrate somewhere, it is advised to postpone it for some days.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today is a positive day for you; you may get success from your hard work on the professional and domestic front. You may have good focus and may complete your work on time, which can improve your self confidence. You may also expect a work-related short trip, which may be beneficial in the near future in terms of your network growth.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may be busy with domestic issues. You may spend money in buying some artefacts or household stuff. You are advised to control spending on worthless stuff, otherwise it may attract negative energy in the house. You are also advised to control speaking harsh words with people.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel comfortable after a messy situation. Your vitality may help you to implement some difficult decisions in parental business, which may bring growth. You may help needy people, which may increase your social respect. Students might be clear in choosing their career.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may face health issues, which may make you impatient. You are advised to control your short temper. You may spend your hard-earned money buying worthless stuff; it may affect your savings. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics, otherwise it might affect the relationship.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may meet some influential person, who may help you in the progress of your work. Your network will be strong with the help of that person. You may prepare yourself to implement new ideas into your work or business. You will plan to invest more capital into your business. In terms of domestic life, you will be busy with family get together and social events.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, your mother's health may be good. You may enjoy your work; you may get rewards for your hard work. Your social respect may increase now. Overworking your mind may make you tired. Due to workload, you may not be able to reach a family event.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may be satisfied at work. You may plan a short work-re- lated trip. You may also visit some religious places to maintain your inner peace. Your gurus may show you the right path, which may give you clarity regarding your goals.

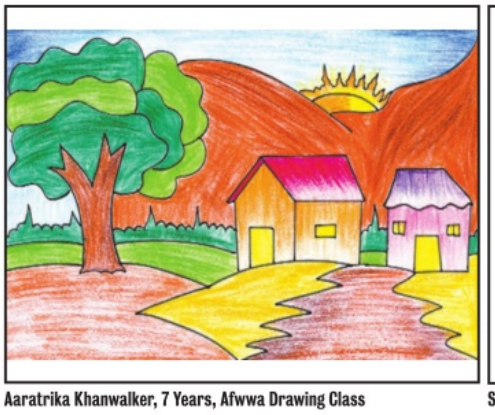
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may feel dull. You may face some health issues. You are advised to postpone making investments into the business. It is also advised not to start a new venture. You are likely to face losses in the business. Your gains may convert into losses.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel good; domestic harmony may make you happy. You may meet an influential person to get some benefits in the work front. You may perform well in your job; you may expect some rewards in terms of promotions. Disputes in inherited property may settle down.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may be healthy and will be able to focus towards your goals. Your performance may be very good at work; your boss may be happy with you. You may get some important responsibilities at work. You may hear good news in a legal matter. You are likely to have control over your opponents and business rivals.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may prefer gaining knowledge. You may understand the value of intellectual assets. Sometimes, you may control your short temper, which may help you to perform your task smoothly. There may be some chances for smooth earning, which may give you comfort in the workflow. You are advised to be careful before making new investments in assets.

KIDZONE



Aaratrika Khanwalker, 7 Years, Afwwa Drawing Class

Sinchana S, 8 Years, Vidyaniketan Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
(1x3)x(3^2)=27

RIDDLER
1. Putting the cart before the horse.
2. It takes two to tango.

BULL'S EYE
elder, ELDERLY, leer.
leery, lyre, reel, rely, yell, yelled

QUOTE UNCODE
We always like those who admire us; we do not always like those whom we admire.

FAST FIVE

S	P	U	D	S
T	E	N	E	T
O	R	I	B	I
O	D	O	U	R
P	U	N	G	S

STRIKE OUT

C	A	M	E	O		D	E	P	O	S	E	D		
M	A	R	B	L	E	S		A	A	R	O	N		
A	O		A	T	S	E	A		I					
N	E	M	E	S	I	S		A	T	I	L	T		
D		A		E		H		N		R				
A	B	N	E	R		E	S	P	A	R	T	O		
T		I		I	S	N	T		E					
E	R	A	S	E	D		E	O	N	I	A	N		
		E		F	E	T	E		S		I			
A	L	S	T	A	R		P	R	O	N	G			
U		T		A		I		B		G				
R	A	N	E		C	A	N	T	A	T	A			
I		A	L	G	A	E		U		R		R		
N	E	M	E	S	I	S		A	T	I	L	T		
A	O		A	T	S	E	A		I					
C	A	M	E	O		D	E	P	O	S	E	D		

QUICK

A	N	N	O	Y		N	O	W	T	H	A	T		
M		E		A		I		C	A	K	E	D		
E		R		L		E		O		S		E		
S	Q	U	A	L	I	D		B	R	I	D	E		
L		P	A		R		L		W					
E	A	S	E	S		A	G	E	L	E	S	S		
H			A		G				H					
C	R	Y	I	N	G		F	A	U	C	E	T		
E				E				T				E		
S	A	B	B	A	T	H		N	A	V	E	L		
T		O		S		G		E		O		P		
I	B	S	E	N		U	N	D	E	R	G	O		
M		I		E		A		A		I		R		

MENSA PUZZLE
5. In each triangle, the number at the apex of the triangle equals the average of the two numbers at the bottom.

SUDOKU

6	7	5	4	1	2	9	8	3
9	3	8	7	5	6	2	4	1
4	2	1	8	9	3	6	5	7
1	9	7	6	4	8	3	2	5
2	6	3	5	7	9	4	1	8
8	5	4	3	2	1	7	9	6
3	1	9	2	8	7	5	6	4
7	4	2	1	6	5	8	3	9
5	8	6	9	3	4	1	7	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
R, Ar, Rat, Star, STraW, WHeat, WHirlers.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 4 + 4 - 6 = 10
Medium
7 + 8 - 7 - 4 = 4
Hard
9 + 7 x 1 + 8 = 24

LOOP

KAKURO

 # Good show, Maitreyi
Maitreyi Ramakrishnan of 'Never Have I Ever' fame will receive a special Canadian Screen Awards honour to recognise her impact on global TV audiences

Shruti's fan boys and girls

Actress-singer Shruti Haasan who celebrates her birthday on the 28th of January, has already started getting celebratory messages from her fans on account of her birthday month. Shruti enjoys solid following across social media.

We hear, the actress' fan clubs in Chennai, Hyderabad and Mumbai among other places are planning to celebrate her birthday in a grand manner. A friend revealed, "Shruti is overwhelmed by her fans' gesture and her DMs are flooded with birthday messages and greetings. Such loyal fan base to whom Shruti considers her virtual family can be attributed to the fact that she keeps her fans updated with various aspects of her life and often interacts with them on her own rather than having an agency manage her account. Her fans fondly call her 'Goth Papa' as she is often seen donning goth look in her public appearances and on social media as well."

Shruti reacted, "The year couldn't have started on a better note. I have received the sweetest messages over the last few days and I'm grateful for having such amazing fans. My birthday is a few days away but just reading these wishes and messages daily makes every day special."

— ETimes

Shock & support in splitsville

Fans stunned by Aishwaryaa, Dhanush's decision to part ways

South star Dhanush on Monday sent shockwaves around Tinseltown after announcing his separation from filmmaker wife, Aishwaryaa Rajinikanth after 18 years of marriage.

Dhanush and Aishwaryaa, daughter of megastar Rajinikanth, tied the knot in 2004 and are parents to two sons, Yatra and Linga.

The two shared a note announcing their separation on their respective social media accounts.

"Eighteen years of togetherness as friends, couple, as parents and well-wishers to each other. The journey has been of growth, understanding, adjusting and adapting. Today we stand at a place where our paths separate. Aishwaryaa and I have decided to part ways as a couple and take time to understand us as individuals for the better."

"Please do respect our decision and give us the needed privacy to deal with this. Om Namashivaaya! Spread love, D," Dhanush shared in a note on Twitter.

Aishwaryaa also shared the same note on her handles and wrote, "No caption needed...only your understanding n your love necessary!"

News of their divorce came as a shock to many fans who took to Twitter to say, "It's really shocking! So sad."

Extending their support to the estranged couple during this trying time, fans shut down trolls and haters saying, "That's unexpected and shocking! The reasons behind the break-up are none of our business. Media and fans should give them the space they need. We just wish #Dhanush and @ash_r_dhanush sis all the best for the future!"

Fans also sent Superstar Rajinikanth their love and strength. Taking to social media, fans got #Rajinikanth trending by posting notes to offer the superstar their love and support by saying, "Stay strong Thalaivaa".

A fan wrote, "Heart goes out to Thalaivar @rajinikanth Heard he was emotionally drained during Soundarya's divorce and now this Stay strong Thalaivaa."

Aishwaryaa has directed films like the Tamil romantic thriller '3' and black comedy 'Vai Raja Vai'.

Dhanush, also a producer, was recently seen in the Aanand L Rai directed Hindi romantic drama 'Atrangi Re' and will next be seen in the Hollywood film 'The Gray Man' co-starring Chris Evans, Ryan Gosling and Ana de Armas.

What Lin appreciates about Priyanka Chopra

Actor Lin Laishram, who impressed audiences with her performance in the movie 'Axone', has praised Priyanka Chopra Jonas for acknowledging lack of diverse casting in her 2014 film 'Mary Kom'.

In response to a question, Priyanka agreed and commented that someone from the northeast should have played Mary Kom: "I look nothing like her," she had said. This acknowledgement was received as a welcome gesture from Priyanka which was then openly appreciated by Lin who had the same point of view on it.

Lin said: "It's really gracious and brave of Priyanka to finally accept this and put it out there. My admiration for her has only grown immensely. Inclusivity I feel is very hard to understand unless you are excluded."

—IANS

Divas in black

Actors who rocked the black lehenga look

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

Porn case: Breather to Poonam

The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted pre-arrest bail to actor and model Poonam Pandey in a case related to a porn films racket. A Bench issued notice on the appeal filed by Pandey challenging the November 25, 2021 order of the Bombay High Court which had declined her plea for anticipatory bail. The Bench said, "No coercive action against the appellant. Issue notice."

Pandey's plea said her anticipatory bail plea was rejected though she has participated in the investigation and no offence, even prima-facie, made out against her.

The plea said that she has actively assisted in the investigation, however, the High Court has without any basis, rejected the anticipatory bail application.

"While the Petitioner is not the owner or business partner in any such, websites or Online Platform, the only allegation against the Petitioner is that some video allegedly portraying the Petitioner is available on the website.."

The grievance of the complainant, in the FIR and complaint, is against the websites that are showing obscene or lascivious material, the plea said, adding that she has no role to play in either the functioning of the websites or the online platforms.

— ANI